



[Handwritten signature]

BOX: ISSUE FEE
PATENT
1257-116P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: STELLA, Valentino et al. Group: 1625
Serial No.: 09/131,385 Examiner: AULAKH, C.
Filed: August 7, 1998 Batch: R25
For: WATER SOLUBLE PRODRUGS OF HINDERED ALCOHOLS

LETTER REQUESTING INITIALED PTO 1449 FORM(S)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reviewing the above-captioned application file upon allowance, the undersigned has noted that Applicant PTO Form 1449 submitted with Information Disclosure Statement on February 29, 2000, has not been acknowledged by the Patent and Trademark Office.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to return the initialed form to the undersigned as soon as possible.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. §1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington

D.C. 20231 on: November 28, 2000
(Date of deposit)

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

Jon M. Hillman
(Signature)

November 28, 2000
(Date of Signature)

LRS/lmt
1257-116P

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By *[Signature]*
Leonard R. Svensson

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(714) 708-8555